

Application No.: 09/881,275  
Supp. Remarks

R E M A R K S

Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for this application on August 2, 2004. As such, reconsideration of the application in view of the Amendment filed June 3, 2004, as well as the following supplemental remarks is respectfully requested.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,585,599 to Horigami et al.

In the Advisory Action mailed July 22, 2004, the Examiner cited a new reference, namely, U.S. Pat. No. 6,585,599 to Horigami et al. ("Horigami et al."). The Examiner stated that the amended claims, i.e., claims 8 and 10-12, are not believed to be patentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,357,014 to Baer et al. ("Baer et al.") in view of Horigami et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Figure 5 of Horigami et al. shows that characters are distributively arranged on concentric circles. However, Horigami et al. is silent with respect to how the center of the concentric circles is determined.

In contrast, in Applicant's claims the center point is determined based on positions of characters making up a crowd in a virtual space. The system of Horigami et al. relates to formation of an enemy party and an ally party of the characters, and therefore, it does not suggest application thereof to a crowd movement.

Therefore, there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Horigami et al. with Baer et al., which means that Applicant's claims are not obvious from these references.

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No Fees Believed to be Due

No extra fees are believed to be due.

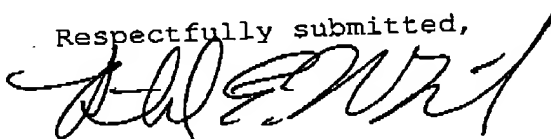
C O N C L U S I O N

In view of the above, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858) 552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Dated

8/31/04

Respectfully submitted,



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